



Transmitted Via Electronic Mail

September 20, 2012

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II
Emergency and Remedial Response Division
290 Broadway, 19th Floor, Room W-20
New York, NY 10007-1866
Attn: Alice Yeh

**Re: Monthly Progress Report No. 11
Combined Sewer Overflow/Stormwater Outfall Investigation
Diamond Alkali Superfund Site (Lower Passaic River Study Area)**

Dear Ms. Yeh:

Submitted herein is the Monthly Progress Report for work performed as part of the Combined Sewer Overflow/Stormwater Outfall Investigation for the Diamond Alkali Superfund Site (Lower Passaic River Study Area). This progress report has been prepared pursuant to Section IX Paragraph 53 of the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Occidental Chemical Corporation, Index No. CERCLA-02-2011-2016.

If you have any questions, please call me at 732.246.5851.

Sincerely,

Tierra Solutions, Inc.

Paul Brzozowski
Remediation Manager
On behalf of Occidental Chemical Corporation
(as successor to Diamond Shamrock Chemicals Company)

cc: Carol E. Dinkins, Vinson & Elkins
Willard Potter, de maximis, inc.
Karyllan Dodson Mack, K&L Gates

CSO-SWO_Investigation_Monthly_Report_No_11.docx

10th Floor

Two Tower Center Blvd . East Brunswick, New Jersey 08816

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MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT NO. 11
COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOW/STORMWATER OUTFALL INVESTIGATION
DIAMOND ALKALI SUPERFUND SITE (LOWER PASSAIC RIVER STUDY AREA)
WORK PERIOD: AUGUST 2012

Actions Taken Towards Achieving Compliance with the Order

- ☐ Tierra continued coordination with Groundwater Treatment and Technology (GWTT) to construct the sample collection system and trailer.
- ☐ Tierra, in coordination with GWTT, completed construction and testing of the sample collection system and trailer.
- ☐ Tierra conducted the field demonstration of the sample collection system and trailer on August 24, 2012.
- ☐ Tierra conducted the laboratory demonstration of the low solid mass sample separation at Test America in Burlington, VT on August 29, 2012.
- ☐ Tierra held a teleconference with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to discuss the results of the second organochlorine pesticide performance evaluation study on August 15, 2012. Based upon the discussion, Tierra received verbal approval from USEPA to submit a third performance evaluation sample for organochlorine pesticide analysis to Vista Analytical.
- ☐ Tierra implemented corrective actions and submitted a third performance evaluation sample for organochlorine pesticide analysis to Vista Analytical on August 17, 2012.

USEPA and Other Information/Correspondence Received

- ☐ None during this reporting period.

Validated Sampling or Testing Results Received or Generated During the Course of Implementing the Work

- ☐ None during this reporting period.

Future Plans, Actions and Data Scheduled for September and October 2012

- ☐ Collect pre-program blanks (estimate late September 2012).
- ☐ Complete memorandum documenting the sample collection system and trailer field demonstration (estimate early October 2012).
- ☐ Complete memorandum documenting the field reconnaissance activities (estimate early October 2012).
- ☐ Submit a laboratory audit report of Brooks Rand Labs of Seattle, WA to USEPA (estimate late September 2012).
- ☐ Complete memorandum documenting the laboratory low solids mass sample separation demonstration at Test America in Burlington, VT (estimate late September 2012).
- ☐ Hold a pre-mobilization telephone conference with USEPA and the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners (estimate late September 2012).
- ☐ Submit the verification of the general filtration 0.5micrometer wound filter cartridge (part No. G0.5A4A) used in the secondary separation procedure for low mass solids to USEPA (estimate late September 2012).
- ☐ Complete low solids mass dissolved phase method blank study (estimate mid-October 2012).
- ☐ Submit the results of the third performance evaluation sample for organochlorine pesticide analysis sent to Vista Analytical (estimate early October 2012).

- ☐ Initiate Phase I sampling activities (estimate late October 2012).

Actual or Potential Violations, Other Problems Encountered and Corrective Actions

- ☐ None during this reporting period.

Delays Encountered or Anticipated and Mitigation Actions

- ☐ None during this reporting period.